

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the present title of the application with the following title:

“INTERMEDIATES FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF ETHER COMPOUNDS”.

At page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning “This application claims” to read:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 10/132,194, filed April 26, 2002, presently allowed, which is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/540,740, filed March 31, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,410,802, issued June 25, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/127,321, filed April 1, 1999, ~~the entire contents of which are~~ each application being incorporated herein by reference herein in its entirety.